AC U465(3) WHITEFIELD

Annual Report of Medical Officer of Health.

To the Chairman and Gentlemen of the Whitefield Urban District Council.

Sirs, February, 1913.

I beg to hand you my report for the year 1912.

The area of your district is 1398 acres. The population is calculated to be 7004, which gives an average of five persons per acre.

The number of houses in your district is now 1693. No new houses being erected during the year; five houses being closed or converted. The number of inhabitants per house is about four.

The inhabitants of your district are occupied chiefly in the weaving, bleaching, dyeing, and finishing of cotton goods.

There is still a scarcity of working-class dwelling houses (there being actually five houses less in the district this year). The Council have still before them a scheme for the erection of about 54 artisans' dwellings.

The houses in the district on the whole are satisfactory. The majority have a sufficiency of air space about them, and only in a few instances are otherwise than clean inside and in surroundings. During the year, 510 houses were inspected, and seven dwelling houses were declared unfit for human habitation, and seven closing orders were issued. Three of the houses represented were back to back houses; three were converted into through four-roomed houses after the closing orders had been issued; one has been rendered fit for habitation; one demolished; and two are still closed. Nine house premises have been fumigated.

There are still some houses in the district not yet connected to the sewers, for instance—the Park Lane. The sewers and drainage of the district are otherwise sufficient.

Smoke tests have been applied to 355 lineal feet of 4-inch old drains, and 499 lineal feet of 6-inch old drains: eight defects being revealed. 218 inspections have been made of drains and fittings.

The scavenging of the ashpits was satisfactory, the refuse being conveyed to a tip. During the year, 17,867 ashbins, 2,026 dry ashpits, 1,183 privy middens, 3,687 house gullies, have been emptied, and 2,488 loads of refuse carted to the tips. 37 new fresh water closets have been installed in place of insanitary privy middens, and also 11 new dry ashpits.

The sanitary accommodation of the district at the end of the year being as follows :—

Fresh water closets	503.
Waste water closets	170.
Dry ashpits	191.
Privy middens	474.
Ashbins and pails	387.

During the year the effluent from the sewage works outfall was improved, and is likely to be better when the new outfall sewer is completed, the work on which is now in progress.

The drinking water is supplied by the Bury & District Joint Water Board, and is upland water received into reservoirs, and is on the whole satisfactory.

The number of registered workshops in the district is 43. They have been periodically visited, and found to be in a satisfactory condition generally, nine nuisances being discovered, notices of the same being given to occupiers. The number of visits being 53. The bake-houses number 15, two of them being underground.

The slaughter-houses have been inspected at irregular intervals; 48 visits being paid during slaughtering operations. 697 lbs. of diseased and unsound meat deemed unfit for human consumption were found, the owners consenting to the same being destroyed. Two notices were issued to the owners of two slaughter-houses with respect to lime-washing the same.

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Under the Foods and Drugs Act, 44 samples were purchased by the County Police within the district, and 43 were found to be genuine, one sample of milk being very slightly deficient in quality.

VITAL STATISTICS.

According to the regulations of the Local Government Board and County Council, Tables I., II., III., IV., and C. have been prepared, giving a classified statement of the births, deaths, and sickness during the year.

The deaths recorded numbered 91, equalling a death rate of 11·5 (75 occurred in the district, and 16 in institutions out of the district of persons usually resident in the district). The births numbered 137 (88 males and 49 females), equalling a birth rate of 19·5. Of the 91 deaths at all ages, 16 were children under one year of age; three at one and under two years; one at two and under five years; five at five and under 15 years; four at 15 and under 25 years; 14 at 25 and under 45 years; 23 at 45 and under 65 years; and 25 at 65 years and upwards. The deaths of infants under one year of age were 16, equalling a rate of infantile mortality of 116. (Last year 151). Of the deaths under one year four were due to premature birth; two to diarrhœa; three to bronchitis; one to whooping cough; and one to tuberculosis disease. The deaths from zymotic disease were one, enteric (died in Workhouse Hospital); one, measles; two, whooping cough; total, four; equalling a rate of ·57 per 1000. Deaths from respiratory diseases numbered 22 (excluding four from phthisis), giving a rate of 3· and ·57 per 1000. Cancer caused nine deaths, equalling a rate of 1·2 per 1000. During the year the cases of infectious diseases numbered 36 (including 25 of phthisis); scarlet fever, seven cases (no deaths); erysipelas, three (no deaths); diphtheria, one (no death).

I wish to thank the Chairman and Members of the Council for their kind help and consideration during the year.

I am,

Your obedient servant,

(Signed), A. J. YOUNG,

Medical Officer of Health.

Annual Report of Sanitary Inspector.

To the Chairman and Members of the Whitefield Urban District Council.

Gentlemen, 11th February, 1913.

I have pleasure in presenting to you my second annual report, this being a summary of the work done in the Sanitary Department for the year ended 31st December, 1912.

Nuisances.—54 preliminary notices were served upon the owners or occupiers, to abate the sanitary defects found in connection with dwelling-houses, etc., in the course of inspection. The greater portion of these notices received immediate attention by the persons concerned. It has, however, been necessary to serve 11 statutory notices. One case of overcrowding has been dealt with, which necessitated the serving of a statutory notice to secure the abatement of this nuisance. 151 nuisances, affecting 166 houses, were reported to the Sanitary Committee, and nine statutory notices were served in connection therewith. The following table gives particulars of nuisances occurring in which preliminary notices were served:—

Choked Drains in yards	20
,, ,, in passages	1
,, ,, from water closets...	4
,, Intercepting trap	1
Drains, insufficient, yards	2
,, defective	8
,, choked, waste water closets	1
,, defective ,, ,, ,, ...	2
Gully traps, defective	7
,, ,, choked	13

Gullies, rain water, defective	1
,, yard, defective	3
Sink waste pipes, defective	9
Waste water closets, choked	4
,, ,, ,, defective	2
Fresh water closets, choked	8
,, ,, ,, defective flush cisterns ...	6
,, ,, ,, ,, pedestals	3
,, ,, ,, ,, flush pipe	1
Eaves trough, defective	10
Ashbins, defective	11
Downspouts, rain water, defective...	1
Privy closets, offensive	17
Damp wall...	1
Accumulation of manure...	7
Yard, foul surface	1
Sanitary conveniencies, foul	3
House to cleanse	1
Poultry kept so as to be a nuisance	1
Sink waste pipe, connected direct to drain	1
,, ,, ,, not connected to drain	1

Workshops.—The workshops have been periodically visited and found to be in a satisfactory condition generally, nine nuisances being discovered; notices of same being given to occupiers. The total number of visits being 53. Number of bakehouses is 15, two of which are underground bakehouses.

Slaughterhouses.—The slaughterhouses have been inspected at irregular intervals, 48 visits being paid during slaughtering operations. 697 lbs. of diseased and unsound meat were deemed unfit for human consumption, the owners consenting to the same being destroyed. The duty of meat inspection in the slaughterhouses is rendered very difficult, owing to the varying and irregular periods of slaughtering, numerous visits being paid on occasions when slaughtering operations were not taking place. Two notices were issued on the owners of two slaughterhouses, with respect to the limewashing of the same.

Dairies and Cowsheds.—The dairies and cowsheds have been periodically inspected, 21 visits being paid. The total number of cowsheds in the district is 25, of which 15 are in a satisfactory condition, three in a fair condition, and seven in an unsatisfactory condition. Notices have been served upon the occupiers of four of the unsatisfactory cowsheds to place the same in a satisfactory state, and it is proposed that the remaining three unsatisfactory cowsheds will be similarly dealt with at an early date.

Foods and Drugs Act.—The number of samples purchased by the County Police within the District, and submitted for analysis, is 44, of this number 43 were found to be genuine, one sample of milk being very slightly deficient in quality; the various samples taken, being:—Milk, 33; Butter, 2; Whiskey, Scotch, 1; Whiskey, Irish, 1; Margarine, 2; Pepper, 2; Lard, 1; Strawberry Jam, 1; Baking Powder, 1; Total, 44.

Smoke Observations.—35 smoke observations of the mill and works chimneys in the District have been taken, each of 60 minutes duration. The aggregate amount of black smoke evolved during the 35 hours was 21 minutes, which is equal to an average of 36 seconds black smoke for each observation. The longest emission of black smoke was 4 minutes 40 seconds. The Council might take into consideration the question of reducing the time limit of black smoke (10 minutes to the hour), in view of the above results. One statutory notice was served under Section 94, Public Health Act, 1875, respecting an emission of 17 minutes black smoke to the hour, which occurred in December, 1911. The observations taken since give a greatly improved result.

Sewers and Drains.—The defective sewers in Turner Street and Top-o'th'-Fields have been taken out and relaid, and placed in a satisfactory condition, and a new inspection chamber provided on the back Bury New Road sewer. The length of the various drains and number of sanitary fittings inspected and approved, is as under:—4" drains, 853½ feet lin.; 6" drains, 1194½ feet lin.; 9" drains, 110 feet lin.; trapped gullies, 48; trapped intercepters, 5; intercepting chambers, 7; rain water pipes disconnected from

drains, 11; drains ventilated, 6; fresh water closets, 37. Smoke tests have been applied to 355 lineal feet of 4" old drains, and 499 lineal feet of 6" old drains, eight defects being revealed. 218 inspections have been made of drains and fittings. 107 interviews have taken place with owners and builders, regarding the works necessary to secure the abatement of nuisances.

Closet Accommodation of the District (at beginning of the year):—

Number of fresh water closets	466.	Increase during year	37
,, ,, waste water ,,	170.		
,, ,, dry ashpits	180.	Increase during year	11
,, ,, privy middens ...	511.	Decrease ,, ,,	37
,, ,, ashbins	317.		
,, ,, pails	70.		

During the year, 17867 ashbins, 2026 dry ashpits, 1183 privy middens, 3687 house gullies, have been emptied, and 2488 loads of refuse carted to the tips, representing a weight of 3980 tons, 16 cwts. 0 qrs., the average weight per load being assumed as 1 ton, 12 cwts. 28 loads have been removed by farmers, representing 44 tons, 16 cwts. 0 qrs.

Offensive Trades.—There is one offensive trade established in the District, viz.: tripeboiler. Three visits have been paid, and the condition of the premises is satisfactory.

Infectious Diseases.—21 visits have been made to houses in which cases of infectious disease have occurred, and instructions given as to isolation and disinfection. The sanitary condition of the house is ascertained, and where sanitary defects are found they are at once remedied. The number of notifications being:—

1912.		1911.	
Scarlet Fever ...	7	Scarlet Fever ...	21
Diphtheria	1	Diphtheria	4
Erysipelas	3	Erysipelas	4
		Enteric Fever ...	1
		Puerperal	1
Total	11	Total	31

The cases which have been removed to Isolation Hospital are :—

1912.		1911.	
Scarlet Fever ...	2	Scarlet Fever ...	15
		Diphtheria	1
Total	2	Total	16

Nine dwelling-houses have been disinfected with the fumes of Formaldehyde, and the walls sprayed with a solution of Formalin, nine rooms in three houses have also been disinfected after the occurrence of deaths from Phthisis.

Housing of the Working Classes Act, 1890 to 1909.—In conformity with the Housing (Inspection of District) Regulations 1909, the procedure to give effect to these regulations, and the requirements of Sub-Section 17 of the Housing and Town Planning, &c. Act 1909, has been adopted.

510 dwelling-houses have been inspected, and seven dwelling-houses were declared unfit for human habitation, upon representation to the Council; seven closing orders being issued. Three of the houses represented were back to back houses; these were converted into through four-roomed houses after closing orders had been issued. One dwelling-house has been rendered fit for human habitation; one dwelling-house has been demolished, and two dwelling-houses are still closed. Defects have also been remedied in 13 of the houses which were inspected, without making closing orders, the improvements chiefly consisting of the provision of back doors, windows, kitchen floors relaid, &c.

I am, Gentlemen,

Your obedient servant,

(Signed), ELI SHAW,

Sanitary Inspector.

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